



24-5411

DATE: May 6, 2024 (Item No. {{item.number}})
TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Daniel Little, Director, Social Services Agency
SUBJECT: Proclamation for Resource Parent Appreciation Month

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Adopt Proclamation declaring May 2024 as “Resource Parent Appreciation Month” in Santa Clara County. (Social Services Agency)

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no fiscal implications associated with the recommended action.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION AND BACKGROUND

The Social Services Agency (SSA), Department of Family and Children’s Services (DFCS) honors resource families each and every day for their care of foster children in Santa Clara County. The month of May has long been designated nationally as Foster Care Month. As such, SSA requests that the Board of Supervisors (Board) recognize May 2024 as Resource Parent Appreciation Month in Santa Clara County.

Since 1988, May has been nationally recognized as Foster Care Month. The County of Santa Clara honors resource parents for their care of foster children throughout the county. Through their compassion and patience, resource parents give children hope. Resource parents have the best interests of foster children in their roles as advocates, mentors, guardians, teachers, and form lifelong connections with the children entrusted in their care. Resource parents support family reunification efforts and raise children by assuming guardianship or adopting them when reunification efforts are unsuccessful.

As one of the key partners in DFCS’ work around strengthening relationships with internal and external partners, resource parents not only help support children in need of love and care but also provides support to biological families as a resource for growth and protective capacity. Resource parents also support permanency whether in their own homes or being a bridge for families in their continued need for respite, resources and other service linkages. Resource parents are appreciated and needed as DFCS continues to serve complex families, keep children safe, and strengthen families through partnerships. DFCS’ strategic framework values key relationships in redesigning DFCS’ work towards a child and family well-being system, and one of the most important partners is resource parents that share their homes and

hearts with the county's most vulnerable children and families.

CHILD IMPACT

The recommended action impacts the **Safe and Stable Families** indicator by bringing awareness to the service that Resource Families provide to foster children and their families of Santa Clara County and increasing the interest of families to become resource family care providers.

SENIOR IMPACT

The recommended action will have no/neutral impact on seniors.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

The recommended action will have no/neutral sustainability implications.

CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

The report will not be received.

STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL

The clerk of the board is requested to notify Jessica Castillo and Brian Hawkinson at SSA following approval.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Resource Family Appreciation Month Proclamation